

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

In the Office Action, the drawings and specification stand objected to.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 10-15 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st Paragraph.

Claims 4, 10-15 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd Paragraph.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 10-15 and 18, do not stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 or 103.

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Applicant proposes amending claims 1, 3, 4 and 10-13. Accordingly, claims 1, 3, 4, 10-15 and 18 are pending for further consideration (claims 2, 5-9, 16 and 17 having been withdrawn from consideration).

Objection to the Drawings

In the Office Action, the drawings stand objected to.

With regard to independent claim 1, the Office Action states that the limitations of the “drive tool” and “each clutch element having an air gap and a flux guide coil,” must be shown. With regard to the aforementioned objection, in the interest of expediting prosecution of this application, Applicant proposes amending independent claim 1 to delete the aforementioned limitation of the “drive tool,” and further amending claim 1 to recite “at least one clutch element having an air gap and a flux guide coil.” Applicant respectfully asserts that the limitation of the flux guide coil has been clearly described in paragraphs [034] and [035] of the originally filed specification, in that the flux guide coil is the magnetic flux between the clutch parts 7, 11 of Fig. 1a, for example.

With regard to dependent claims 3 and 4, the Office Action states that the limitation of the “means for modifying the flux guide coil,” must be shown. With regard to the aforementioned objection, as discussed above, Applicant respectfully asserts that the limitation of the flux guide coil has been clearly described in paragraphs [034] and [035] of the originally filed specification, in that the flux guide coil is the magnetic flux between the clutch parts 7, 11

of Fig. 1a, for example. With regard to dependent claims 3 and 4, sleeve 13, as illustrated in Figs. 1b and 5, and discussed in paragraphs [034] and [035], has been disclosed as an exemplary means for modifying the flux guide coil.

With regard to dependent claim 12, the Office Action states that the limitations of “a neck drive,” “a drive motor with high rotation speed,” and “a reduction gear,” must be shown. With regard to the aforementioned objection, Applicant respectfully asserts that the limitation of the neck drive 1 is shown in original Fig. 1a, the limitation of the drive motor is now shown in amended Fig. 3, and the limitation of reduction gear 34 is shown in original Fig. 3.

With regard to dependent claim 14, the Office Action states that the limitation of the “tool for root canal treatment,” must be shown. With regard to the aforementioned objection, Applicant proposes adding new Fig. 15 illustrating a conventional root canal treatment tool, which is well known in the art.

With regard to dependent claim 15, the Office Action states that the limitation of “the magnetic clutch element is arranged so that rotations are transmitted on an input side and on an output side,” must be shown. With regard to the aforementioned objection, Applicant respectfully asserts that the aforementioned limitation is clearly shown in Figs. 7a-7c, and discussed in paragraphs [040] and [041] of the originally filed specification.

With regard to dependent claim 18, the Office Action states that the limitation of “a connection point is provided on a motor,” must be shown. With regard to the aforementioned objection, Applicant respectfully asserts that the aforementioned limitation is now shown in amended Fig. 3.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to the drawings.

Objection to the Specification

In the Office Action, the specification stands objected to.

Specifically, paragraph [044] stands objected to for being unclear. In response to the objection to the specification, Applicant proposes amending paragraph [044] as shown above.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to the specification.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, 1st Paragraph

In the Office Action, claims 1, 3, 4, 10-15 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, 1st Paragraph.

Specifically, the Office Action states that there is no teaching in the original disclosure for “each clutch element having an air gap and a flux guide coil,” as recited in independent claim 1.

With regard to the aforementioned rejection, in the interest of expediting prosecution of this application, Applicant proposes amending independent claim 1 to recite “at least one clutch element having an air gap and a flux guide coil.”

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. 112, 1st Paragraph rejection of claims 1, 3, 4, 10-15 and 18.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd Paragraph

In the Office Action, claims 4, 10-15 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd Paragraph.

With regard to dependent claims 4, 10, 11 and 13, Applicant respectfully thanks the Examiner for the helpful suggestions in amending the claim language, and proposes amending claims 4, 10, 11 and 13 as shown above.

With regard to dependent claim 12, the Office Action states that there it is not clear if “a neck drive” recited in claim 12 is the same as the transmission device recited in independent claim 1. With regard to the aforementioned rejection, in the interest of expediting prosecution of this application, Applicant proposes amending independent claim 12 to recite “a neck drive as said transmission device.”

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd Paragraph rejection of claims 4, 10-15 and 18.

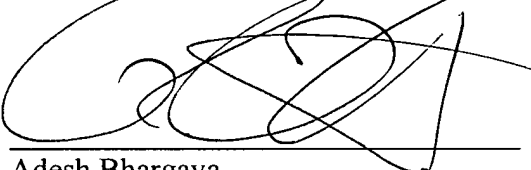
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of the response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 04-2223. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

DYKEMA GOSSETT PLLC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Adesh Bhargava', written over a horizontal line.

By:

Adesh Bhargava
Reg. No. 46,553

Dated: November 26, 2003

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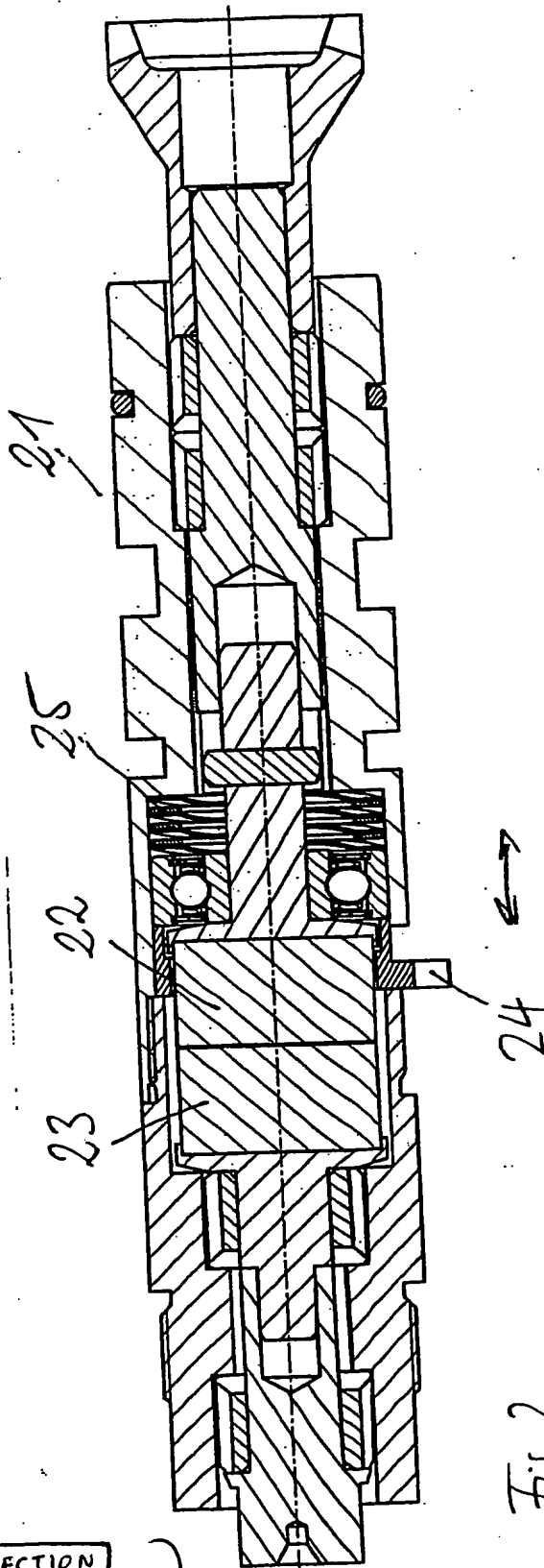
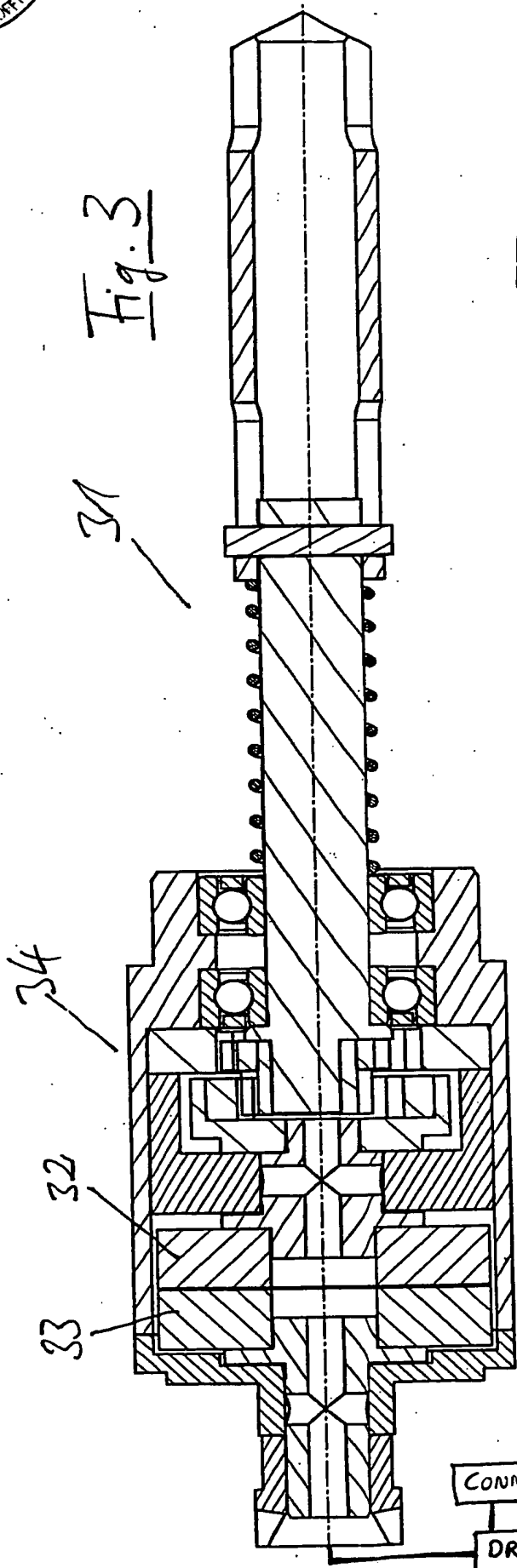


Fig. 2

CONNECTION POINT
DRIVE MOTOR

FIG. Label Added.